



# MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
BUREAU OF TENNCARE

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## **CHILD DENTAL HEALTH IS FOCUS OF NEW TENNCARE CONTRACT**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Improved dental health for children in TennCare is the goal of a new three-year dental benefits management contract with Doral Dental of Tennessee, LLC. Dental screenings and treatment are offered to TennCare children under the age of 21, who account for over 600-thousand members.

“This completes the total health services picture for our members,” said TennCare director Manny Martins. “A comprehensive oral health plan, including prevention and treatment, will mean a reduction in oral disease and better overall health for our members and all Tennesseans.”

Doral Dental of Tennessee, LLC, is a subsidiary of Doral Dental, the nation’s leading multi-state administrator of government dental programs, currently serving more than five million members in 18 states with a combined network of more than 11,500 dentists. Doral assumes administration of the entire TennCare dental program, including provider networks, claims processing and benefit management. Doral also holds dental benefits management contracts with Illinois (1.47 million members) and Kansas (91,000 members).

Doral has built dental networks for government programs nationwide while working within limited funding parameters – including helping improve TennCare dental services as a subcontractor for a number of TennCare managed care organizations (MCOs) for the past five years.

Doral has met contractual provider network requirements for delivering dental services to TennCare members, and will continue to add new dentists to the program on a regular basis.

“The Tennessee Dental Association (TDA) initiated and strongly supported the TennCare dental carve-out with the ultimate goal of providing quality oral health care to Tennessee’s neediest children,” said Dr. Tom Underwood, a member of the Tennessee Dental Association (TDA) who played an active role in the process of separating dental benefit services from other health care services in TennCare, and in the selection of Doral to manage benefits.

Dental screenings and treatment are available to all children in TennCare. Adult dental benefits are limited to emergency services.

TennCare is Tennessee’s managed care health insurance program for 1.4 million Tennesseans who are poor, disabled or uninsured. ###

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